

HISTORY: 1935-55

During Negro History Week in 1935 a group of white and Negro citizens assembled at Christ Church to discuss the possibilities of establishing a library which would serve the Negroes in Raleigh and Wake County.

The group was composed of the Mayor, representatives from the N. C. Library Commission and the N. C. Department of Public Instruction as well as leaders from various professions and clubs.

After a lengthy discussion about the proposed library, Mayor George O. Iseley said that it would be desirable for the Negroes to raise money toward the establishment of the library and that the city commissioners would appropriate \$2,500. With this encouragement, the campaign was organized with "A dollar and a book" as its slogan. Four committees were formed, namely: finance, publicity, book and location. These committees functioned well. The proposed library had excellent publicity, and a large number of books were given. The finance committee canvassed business houses and received many per-



PHOTO: The Main Library